

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PC-04 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /119 W
----- 112406

P 190759Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0626

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 9799

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJECT: ARRESTS, RESIGNATIONS AND THE CHURCH TAKES A STAND

1. RADIO AND PRESS, AUGUST 17 AND 18, CARRIED ANNOUNCEMENT FROM AFCC THAT COMMANDING GENERAL IBG, MG TAFESSE LEMMA HAS BEEN ARRESTED.

2. EMBASSY HEARD FROM WELL PLACED MINISTERIAL SOURCE AUGUST 18 THAT MINISTERS OF COURT, EDUCATION AND MINES, WHOSE RESIGNATIONS DEMANDED BY AFCC, HAD RESIGNED; MINNCD, WHO WAS ALSO ASKED TO QUIT, EXPECTED DO SO SHORTLY, ACCORDING SOURCE.

3. ALSO ON AUGUST 17 ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH (EOC) ISSUED A MEMORANDUM ATTACKING THE DISESTABLISHMENT AND OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION NOW BEFORE THE CABINET FOR CONSIDERATION. THE PRESS ON AUGUST 18 CARRIED EXCERPTS OF THIS DOCUMENT WHICH SUGGEST THAT THE EOC'S HIERARCHY IS MAKING A MAJOR MOVE TO PROTECT THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH'S CURRENT POSITION. DETAILS TO FOLLOW BY SEPTEL.

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4. COMMENT: DEVELOPMENTS DESCRIBED ABOVE ONCE MORE RAISED TO

ACUTE PITCH OVER WEEKEND QUESTION PRIMIN MICHAEL'S CONTINUING
WILLINGNESS TO SERVE. LOCAL PRESS CORPS TRYING TO CONFIRM PLETHORA
OF REPORTS HE HAD ALREADY RESIGNED AND MILITARY TRYING TO INDUCE
HIM TO REMAIN IN OFFICE. QUESTION EXPECTED COME CLEARER IN UPCOM-
ING DELICATE FORTY-EIGHT HOURS, BUT EMBASSY HAS EVERY REASON TO
DOUBT RESIGNATION REPORT AND CURRENTLY CONSIDERS CHANCES AT LEAST
EVEN THAT PRIMIN WILL CHOOSE CONTINUE IN OFFICE.
WYMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, DOCUMENTS, ARRESTS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: powellba2
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ADDIS09799
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740227-0624
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by boyleja>; APPROVED <08 JUN 2005 by powellba2>
Review Markings:

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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